SAVE THE CHILDREN WEEK—1982

HEARING

BEFORE THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS UNITED STATES SENATE

NINETY-SEVENTH CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

ON

CONCERN OF THE WORLD'S CHILDREN FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF U.S. CHILDREN

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SAVE THE CHILDREN WEEK—1982

THURSDAY, MAY 6, 1982

UNITED STATES SENATE,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY
OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS,
Washington, D.C.

The subcommittee met at 10:10 a.m., in room 1202, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Hon. Charles Mc. Mathias (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Present: Senators Mathias, Percy, Pressler, and Sarbanes.

Also Present: Representative Miller.

Senator MATHIAS. The committee will come to order.

I would like to welcome each one of you to this very special hearing of the International Economic Policy Subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.

Today, we will explore the concerns of the world's children from the perspective of American children as a part of "Save the Children Week, 1982."

We have a group of very special guests here today. I would like to thank Mrs. Nancy Thurmond for serving as the official hostess for their visit to Capitol Hill. I am going to keep these introductory remarks very brief since it is not often that we in the Senate have an opportunity to hear testimony from an obviously expert group of witnesses. So, I want to take full advantage of that opportunity.

Here, in the International Economic Policy Subcommittee, we recognize that what the Government of the United States does or does not do in its relations with other countries often directly affects the lives of millions of individual human beings, both here and all around the world. Almost invariably, those human beings most profoundly affected are children and yet, I have to admit we very seldom hear from you. We act as if sometimes we do not think you have voices of your own.

So, today we want to correct the record. We want to correct our previous sins of omission and we will seek advice and guidance from a very special group of witnesses on issues of vital concern to the subcommittee, to the Congress, and to all Americans. Representing all of the 50 States of the Union, the delegates to the first Annual Save the Children Congress will provide us with their perspectives on the concerns of the world's children.

For the past several days, these hundred representatives have been working together at the National 4–H Center in Maryland to consider the recommendations submitted to them by more than 40,000 children across the country.

The topics have included world hunger and health, meeting basic needs of the poor, world peace, education, as well as other economic and social issues affecting all of us.

The fruit of their labor is a piece of proposed legislation aimed at insuring the well-being of children, which I am most anxious to hear about.

I also understand that immediately following this hearing they will go the White House to present their findings.

I think every member of this committee is grateful to Save the Children for taking the lead in making this first Children's Congress a reality. For 50 years, Save the Children has been working with poor people here in the United States and in about 34 other countries to improve the quality of life for children through innovative, community-based self-help programs.

Today, as so often in the past, Save the Children is breaking new ground in the effort to let the voices of children be heard, and they will be heard in this committee today.

But before that, I want to call on Senator Sarbanes, a member of the committee, to see if he has any words.

Senator SARBANES. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I will be brief because we are anxious to hear from the expert witnesses we have here today.

I want to commend Save the Children for its very effective advocacy and its very effective programs over the years. This is, as I understand it, their 50th anniversary. It is particularly appropriate that their 50th anniversary should be marked by the hearing that we are having here today.

I agree fully with the chairman with respect to his observations about the importance of the problems on which we are focusing and the importance of hearing the viewpoints which will be presented here this morning.

So I want to welcome our witnesses. We look forward to hearing your testimony, and we understand that it is the outcome of some very careful discussions and meetings over the course of this week.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Senator MATHIAS. I would like to call on Senator Pressler, another member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Senator PRESSLER. Mr. Chairman, I just want to compliment you on holding this hearing. I hold a lot of "listening" meetings in my home State of South Dakota, but I do not hear much from children. So, I will be listening very closely this morning, this is a unique opportunity.

Senator MATHIAS. Thank you, Senator Pressler.

We are honored today by having a visitor from the other side of Capitol Hill, Representative George Miller from California.

Representative MILLER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I also want to congratulate you on holding these hearings. It is very rare that those of us in Congress get an opportunity to hear directly from the children.

I met with this group 2 days ago when they were considering what they were going to say to us. They had a very wide range of issues under consideration—from child abuse to wife abuse, to cleaning up

the parks, to more money for education, and concern over whether or not the world was going to survive nuclear warheads.

I told them they may have to engage in a political compromise and come up with a list of issues because they could probably not convince all of their colleagues that one issue was "the" most important. So, I am anxious to hear what they have to say and to see what they have decided on to tell us.

Thank you.

Senator MATHIAS. I said a minute ago that I hoped this was a precedent-setting occasion. I meant it. I hope that this will be the first of many Save the Children Congresses.

Just one final word from me. I want to extend a very special thanks to an old friend, to a long-time resident of the Free State of Maryland, Gaither Warfield. [Applause.]

He is a long-time member of your board of directors and I have known him for years. I think he exemplifies the spirit and the power of voluntarism. Without him, I doubt that this meeting could have been held.

So, without further ado, I would like to call on a "young" friend, Marjorie Craig Benton, who will introduce the children.

Mrs. Benton, as I think you all know, is chairman of the board of directors of Save the Children and also serves as the U.S. delegate to UNICEF.

Mrs. Benton?

STATEMENT OF MARJORIE CRAIG BENTON, CHAIR, SAVE THE CHILDREN FEDERATION, WASHINGTON, D.C.

Ms. BENTON. Thank you, Senator Mathias, and welcome to all friends of children.

As the Senator told you, I am Marjorie Craig Benton, chair of Save the Children Federation.

This hearing today could not occur at a more important time—important for us because this is our 50th anniversary, and in celebration of this year we have here today for the first time two children representing each of our 50 States.

They have been together in Washington this past week to convene their own Children's Congress.

We also have here 40,000 letters written by kids from all over the country.

The children have drafted their own resolution, and in a few minutes they want to tell you about their concerns and their fears.

We think these hearings are also terribly important because of your impending budget negotiations. We hope in the following weeks when you look at programs that affect children, that you will not be indifferent; that you will remember what you heard from the children themselves; that you will remember that they are worried about nuclear war; the disintegration of the family; the difficulty of getting an education, and the economy.

Ten-year-old Christine Paguette of Maryland says it beautifully in a letter she wrote President Reagan, and I would like to read you her letter.

She says:

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: If I had one wish for the world's children it would be that there would not be any more poverty. Children all over the world are facing many problems. For instance, children have to look in garbage cans for scraps of food. To them, scraps are a feast.

If we want good ideas for the future ahead, how can we get people to think of them if they do not go to school when they are little? That is another problem of poverty, lack of education. If parents cannot live near a school they cannot get their kids educated. Their kids cannot fulfill their dreams or better themselves.

Those problems are some of the many problems of poverty. If I were rich, I would spend all my money until each and every kid was well taken care of. We should all spend some time thinking about these kids.

Senators, we hope you will remember that the price of your indifference could be a generation of poor children who grow up into depressed and wasted adults.

Thank you for taking the time to remember the children. Thank you for your willing ears and, we hope, your willing hearts.

Now, I would like to introduce our first witness. His name is Keith Nelson. He is from Inkster, Mich. He is 10 years old. As you can see, he is a Cub Scout. Keith?

KEITH NELSON. Hi.

Senator MATHIAS. Hi.

KEITH NELSON. We, the 102 delegates of the First Children's Congress, in order to inform you of the special concerns of children, wish to present the following resolution to you.

KRISTI KINCER. Hello. My name is Kristi Kincer and I am from Kentucky. I am 11 years old.

This is the Subcommittee on Hunger.

Because all children have the right to grow up to be healthy and strong, yet millions of children are dying each year from malnutrition;

And because in some countries people are too poor to buy food the children are hungry and have difficulty learning and working;

And because 21 children die every minute due to disease and lack of food;

And because children are the future of the world.

GREG GIELING. Hello, my name is Greg Gieling. I am from New Jersey, and I am 10 years old.

We therefore urge Congress to:

Support programs that help people from all countries get involved in solving problems of world hunger;

To support programs of self-help for poor people in their own communities, including programs to help them raise their own food;

Increase spending on other countries;

Pass laws that will reduce wastage of food, water, land, and other natural resources.

CYNTHIA DAVIDOFF. Hello, my name is Cynthia Davidoff. I represent the State of Pennsylvania, and I am 12 years old.

To open up new lands in this country that are not well used for food production;

To support programs for feeding hungry children by providing nutritious, inexpensive food;

To help companies through special contracts to ship food to other countries;

And to allow U.S. citizens to pay a part of their income tax to end world hunger through a checkoff box on their tax form.

MICHAEL LEIB. My name is Michael Leib and I am from New York, and I am 11 years old.

Because underdeveloped countries lack the necessary ingredients for sophisticated medical technology, we therefore urge Congress to organize and support medical clinics in these specific areas of the world.

ADRIENNE DAVIS. Hi, my name is Adrienne Davis, I am representing the State of New Jersey. My age is 11 years old.

Because of the rapidly increasing illegal drug usage among children of all ages throughout the world, we therefore urge Congress to create and establish a workable system for drug control.

EDDIE ROBERTS. My name is Eddie Roberts. I represent the State of North Carolina. I am 10 years old.

Because not all children have a school to go to;

Because not all children can afford to go to school;

Because some would rather not go to school;

Because there are not always the right kinds of schools for children with special needs such as gifted and handicapped children;

Because some schools lack supplies and cannot give a proper education.

KEKE ZULU. Hi, my name is Keke Zulu, I am 12 years old and I am from Minnesota.

Therefore, we urge the Congress to get more qualified and better trained teachers to make learning more enjoyable;

Therefore, we urge the Congress to spend more money on educational needs, such as books, school supplies, buildings, wheelchair ramps;

Therefore, we urge the Congress to send teachers and supplies to other countries who need educational aid, to help them learn how to find and use their resources better.

Senator MATHIAS. Thank you all very much. We will have some questions for you. But first I want you to meet our boss on the Foreign Relations Committee, the Senator from Illinois, Senator Percy. [Applause.]

The CHAIRMAN. Let me assure you of one thing, there are no bosses in the Senate. Every Senator is a Senator and no one knows better that there are more individual Senators than the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee.

I would like to thank you very much for being here. It is a great thrill for us to see the next generation of leaders of America come forward and talk about what this generation of leaders ought to do to build children of the world a better community in which to live and work.

That is what we are trying to do in the Foreign Relations Committee, find a way to have peace in the world; to prevent nuclear war; to make this place a better and more hopeful world for everyone.

We must begin right here at home with you. and this is probably one of the most exciting and interesting days of testimony that we have.

I have to speak on the floor of the Senate and I appreciate Senator

Mathias yielding to me for just a moment. But I wanted to stay and tell you about an experience I had just 2 weeks ago.

Save the Children is a worldwide organization and I am very proud that the chairman of the board, Marje Benton, is from Illinois. She is also the U.S. representative to UNICEF, which is the United Nations organization dealing with children around the world.

You might happen to know—I do not know if any of you do—that my brother-in-law, David Guyer, sitting over there, is president of Save the Children. So, we are keeping it in the family.

When I was in Sri Lanka—a country that used to be called Ceylon, down below India—2 weeks ago, I went to see what Save the Children as a federation was doing in Sri Lanka.

I went to a city called Shanty Town in Colombo, the capital of Sri Lanka, to see a part of a city that had been controlled by ex-convicts. Gangs ran that particular section of the city and there was gang rule.

Some people came in with Save the Children to see if they could not change all that. They began working with young people and they got a bright young man to run as the mayor of that particular Shanty Town.

He started to work through Save the Children volunteers and staff people to find some way they could better the city. They had no paved streets of any kind, and they started to pave them with brick.

There was no water that came in, and they dug wells and brought water in.

They had no community center, and volunteer workers, women, 45 women are working to build that. They will dedicate it in another couple of weeks.

All of this was done by Save the Children thousands of miles from here, to just give hope to those young children. And the spirit of those children in that village—I went in twice to see them—was wonderful. I wish I had brought my movies along this morning to show you, that I took there. But it was wonderful what a difference they could make in building their community for the future.

You are making a difference by giving us ideas as to what we can do to build a stronger America and a stronger world, and we thank you very much for being with us.

I have no questions, Mr. Chairman, but I just want to congratulate you and this subcommittee on holding these hearings which are so significant and important for us.

[Applause.]

Senator MATHIAS. Thank you, Senator Percy.

The subject of your report, Resolution on Hunger, is, of course, a very important one.

I have before me the UNICEF report and in it it says,

> This has been another year of silent emergency of 40,000 children quietly dying each day; of a hundred million children quietly going to sleep hungry at night; of ten million children quietly becoming disabled in mind or body; of twenty million six- to eleven-year olds—

Very much your age group—

> Quietly watching other children go to school; of one-fifth of the world's people quietly struggling for life itself.

I think it is remarkable that this panel has brought this resolution to us and is not "quietly" witnessing this but is speaking up on this subject.

Mrs. Benton?

Ms. BENTON. We have more things for you to hear, Senator.

Senator MATHIAS. All right.

SANDY CUNNINGHAM. Hello, my name is Sandy Cunningham and I am from Virginia, and I am 12 years old. My subcommittee was on world peace.

Because you are spending too much money on the arms race, we urge you to stop spending so much on the military and spend more on the hungry of the world;

Because the countries of the world do not trust each other, we urge you to get to know and understand the other side. Make the first move;

Because wars can happen by accident or intention—and we won't know about it—we urge you to get more nations to take part in world events, like games other than war. For example, Falkland Islands and Great Britain could play a soccer game;

Because of greed—everybody wants more and more—we urge you to stop the spread of countries that own weapons.

MIKE MALANEY. My name is Mike Malaney and I am from Ohio, and I am 12 years old.

Because we want world peace and we want world trust, we urge you to build up world trade;

Because God did not put us on this Earth to kill and make war, we urge you to use nuclear power in a peaceful way. Examples are power for homes, factories, work, medical experiments, industrial work, and space flight;

Because children have the right to be brought up in a spirit of peace and universal brotherhood, we urge you to teach children to have trust in one another and not hate. Teach them to love thy neighbor as thyself.

MARK MURRAY. My name is Mark Murray and I represent the State of Hawaii, and I am 12 years old. My topic is on discrimination.

Because people discriminate against each other and have gang fights and chicken fights;

Because black children are not treated equally;

Because rich children avoid poor children;

Because some boys and girls are against each other because of race, religion, sex, accent, nationality, looks and personality;

Because of other children's pride and fame, some children are jealous and discard those friends;

Therefore, Congress ought to try to prevent discrimination between children by providing patrol cars for patroling around schools and old roads where different kinds of fights occur;

Therefore, Congress should help children to get along with each other and respect others' religions and achievements.

LOGAN ERNSTTHAL. Hi, my name is Logan Ernstthal and I am 12 years old. I live in Connecticut. My topic is child abuse.

Because of the number of children being abused physically, mentally, verbally, et cetera—200,000 is the recent figure.

Because some parents drink and smoke heavily, and copy what their parents did to them;

Because children are afraid to report their parents and lose what love they are getting;

Because of loss of jobs, frustration is being taken out on children;

Because this is a big problem, we urge Congress to take immediate action.

Therefore, we urge the Congress to form a committee for helping abused children;

Therefore, we suggest it become a law in all States that in every school three check-ups a year take place to check children thoroughly for signs of abuse;

Therefore, there should be a shelter waiting for the children to stay in if they are abused;

Therefore, there should be a place for abused children's parents and abused children to have group meetings to solve problems—Abusers Anonymous.

KEVIN MOFFATT. Hello, my name is Kevin Moffatt, I am 10 years old, and I represent Maryland. My topic is on children's love and caring.

Because children have a need for love and caring;

Because we have more working or single parents;

Because children have feelings, too;

Because children get lonely without love;

Because when children have no love, they will show it physically and mentally;

Therefore we, the citizens of the United States, need to have more day care centers and orphanages;

Therefore, Congress and our citizens can help us do these necessary tasks to have secure and confident children by such things as youth groups, recreation groups and children's representation in Congress, as we are starting to do today.

AMY GRAHAM. Hello, my name is Amy Graham. I am 12 years old, and I am from Illinois. Our committee was on material needs.

Because prices are so high, many people cannot afford the necessities and live in a bad environment;

Because there are not enough jobs in the marketplace, people cannot afford basic needs;

Because there are not enough houses, people are living outdoors and in disease-bound slums;

Because there is not enough clothing many people are cold, sick and may die;

Because people don't have enough money, they don't have furnishings like beds, tables, chairs, and proper eating utensils, et cetera.

HEATHER MEISELMAN. Hello, my name is Heather Meiselman and I am from the State of New York, and I am 10 years old.

Therefore, we propose that people give their old clothes to a charity agent instead of throwing them out;

Therefore, we urge Congress to create more jobs for the needy people;

Therefore, we propose that Congress pass a law to give voters a chance to donate $1 on their income tax form;

Therefore, we urge Congress to train people to help themselves to build houses, work in factories, plant crops, to make clothes, and make furnishings;

Therefore, we ask the Government to divide up the tax money so that more is spent on basic material needs for the unfortunate poor.

Senator MATHIAS. Let me ask Senator Sarbanes if he would like to ask any questions or make comments.

Senator SARBANES. First of all, Mr. Chairman, I want to say, this has been very helpful testimony.

I would like to ask, why do you think it is that some people do not understand how important some of the things are that you recommended to us this morning? Who has an idea about that?

Will you take the microphone so people can hear your answer?

VOICE. Because they have everything they want and they don't need it.

Senator SARBANES. Because they have everything they want and they do not need it themselves.

How do we get them to understand, then? I think that is a good point. I think that is a good answer. How do we get people who are not going through it themselves, and seem unable to appreciate what the problem is, to understand the problem? Who has some ideas on that? Yes.

MICHAEL LEIB. I think we should show them pictures and let them look at figures on what happens to the children of the world when they do not get enough caring and enough food or clothing. They have not realized that. They have never had to go without it.

Senator SARBANES. That is a good point. Did someone else want to add something to that? Come up to the microphone.

LISA LEVENGER. My name is Lisa Levenger. I am 10 years old. I am from New York.

I think you should give out pamphlets and some information about children of the world. Like he said, some pictures also, so people see how difficult it is to live in other countries and the problems there.

CARLA MURRAY. My name is Carla Murray from California, and I am 12 years old.

I think that maybe if they wanted to they could witness how it feels to be without it. That maybe they could set up a center where some people don't have anything to eat with, or they don't have clothes. Maybe these people who do not understand can witness this happening.

Senator SARBANES. All right.

AMY WARSHAL. My name is Amy Warshal and I am representing Florida.

I do not think it will be really too hard to get people to understand what the children need in this world. All they have to do is turn on the TV and watch the news, and you can really see everything that the children need. You see hunger, you see child abuse.

And right there, that is easy enough to convince them that we need something to be done for all this. We need a law against it all so it will not be done any more because you turn on the TV and you see the news that kids are being beat up. I do not think that is really what the people like to see.

Senator SARBANES. Do you think the people, if they understood, would be willing to pay taxes to help with this problem; or do you think they would say, "Well, we see there is a problem but we do not want to make a contribution to it." What do you think about that?

AMY WARSHAL. Well, then you just have to go on to somebody else, but you can't quit. You have to keep on trying or it will never work.

Senator SARBANES. That is right, thank you. [Applause.]

In case that was not heard by everyone I want to underscore it. I think it is probably the best advice we have gotten all morning and that is, you can't quit, you have to just keep on trying. I agree with that. Thank you very much.

Senator MATHIAS. Senator Pressler, do you have any questions?

Senator PRESSLER. No, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Senator MATHIAS. I think the one question that I would ask—to expand a little on Senator Sarbane's question—in this matter of hunger and the matter of other issues that you have brought before us, it really means that somebody has to pay a bill. Somebody has to share a little bit.

Now, your parents work hard to earn their living and earn a living for you. They are like all other American parents all over the country.

If we are going to attack these problems that all of us see and that we agree on, do you think your parents are willing to either contribute a little bit or pay a little bit more in taxes in order to solve these problems?

MICHAEL LEIB. I am Michael Leib from New York.

Senator MATHIAS. Michael, will you come up to the microphone?

MICHAEL LEIB. What I wanted to say is that, do you know how much a dollar would do for a child? Things are so inexpensive, rice, milk. Fifty-two cents, if I am correct, would be the average amount for somebody to eat in the countries in Africa.

What a dollar could do, what hundreds of dollars could do would be fabulous, and even more. That is what people should really realize, how much it would help somebody else that needs it more than they do.

Senator MATHIAS. So, you think it would be useful to contribute a little.

MICHAEL LEIB. Yes.

Senator MATHIAS. Fine.

JASON ST. JOHN. Hello, my name is Jason St. John and I am 10 years old. I am from New Jersey.

I happen to agree that a system should be devised like that, but if everyone in the world pays a dollar, everyone—there are about how many people in the world—if everyone contributes a dollar the people that are poor would just suddenly turn rich.

I think something should be devised, but something better than that.

Senator MATHIAS. Yes; on the front row there.

GREG GIELING. I disagree with him because I think one dollar from us will not make us poor, but it will make them just like us and they will be normal again. They won't be rich, and they won't be poor; and we won't be poor, either.

Senator MATHIAS. So, you think we can share a little.

GREG GIELING. Yes, because a dollar is not that much.

VOICE. I disagree with him too, because if the money is going to the poor, as soon as they get enough money to get going, no more money will come to them.

HEATHER MEISELMAN. My name is Heather Meiselman and I am from New York.

I feel that $1 would be great because it would change the whole world. I don't see why people are disagreeing to make the world better.

Senator MATHIAS. Let me ask Representative Miller if he would like to ask a question.

Representative MILLER. He wanted to ask a question.

Senator MATHIAS. I am sorry.

BLAINE PFANNKUCH. My name is Blaine Pfannkuch and I represent the State of Colorado, and I am 11.

I believe that lots of people, especially in the United States, had a chance. They gave it up for things like drinking or smoking, or drug abuse. If we give a dollar to everybody they will just be the same way they were. We will be giving them all that stuff and they abuse their own lives.

Representative MILLER. You know, I said when I met with you 2 days ago that, given what you said in that meeting, I was willing to trade you all in for the colleagues I serve with because it looks like it would be a much better world if you were making policy.

I think that is what we are hearing here, that there is obviously concern and a willingness among the witnesses this morning that they care about other children that they have never met, that they know are perhaps in a worse situation than they are. They are asking that a policy be developed so that those who are less fortunate can do better.

I am delighted at what this committee is hearing from all of you, that you are so absolutely willing to provide shelters for people who are abused and cannot stay at home. To try to provide better schools because I think it is the sentiment that we tried to talk about the other day, that the decisions that we make here affect you a whole lot more than they affect us.

I think what you are saying, if I hear you correctly, is that you would like a little investment in children so that children could get off to a better start and could have a chance of making it—not only in the United States but elsewhere in the world.

It reminds me of when my son was trying to teach me to play Pac Man and I could not learn it. He said, "Dad, the problem with you is, you are an adult."

It may be, as you said, that that experience has somehow been removed from us, but it is being rejuvenated by the fact that you would come here and so generously are willing to share everything that you have with those who do not have it.

I think it is something for us to remember, as your spokesman said, as we go into these budget hearings and start allocating resources from the U.S. Government.

Senator MATHIAS. Senator Pressler, I think, now has a question.

GREG GEILING. I agree with what the kid said about the drinking and stuff, but I think if we give them one more chance they will do it right this time, and they won't make any mistakes with drinking.

Senator PRESSLER. I have a question about military spending, if I might ask it. We had some testimony that we should reduce military spending.

I serve as chairman of the Arms Control Subcommittee and we have a lot of testimony about, how we can best protect our Nation. And yet, we are spending an increasing amount on bombs and military activities.

Do some of you have a solution to this, how can we keep our Nation safe from foreign invasion and from foreign domination, and yet not have such a high cost for our national defense? Does anybody have some ideas on that?

BLAINE PFANNKUCH. I disagree with him on the fact that we studied drugs and you just become addicted to it, and all the money they get, they would probably just spend it on more. They would keep doing that. They would just turn out to be like us, as I said before.

MIKE MALANEY. About your military spending question. If you would just cut back on that and spend some more money on education, you would have people who are smart enough to control the computers that control the missiles and set everything correctly, and be able to build a bomb that will not shoot up 2 feet and fall back down.

MATT SCOTT. My name is Matt Scott and I represent Ohio.

If we did have more education then we would have more ability to build more sophisticated weapons and build better defenses. That way we would be a better nation for defenses.

Also, if we did get in a war right now and no one is educated, where are we going to start over with?

AMY WARSHAL. I am Amy Warshal from Florida.

I have a big thing for the school thing and I think money should go to that. But I also think that money should go to help us with the nuclear wars or whatever we are going to have because if Russia or somebody comes over and bombs us, then all our schools are going to go down and everything. Even if you are educated, what are you going to do without anything to fight back with? You cannot just go over there and hit them on the head with a rock. They will kill you.

So, I think that money should go to help us build and to do experiments to see what will work. But I do think that a considerable amount should go to the schooling because I know that a lot of schools need a lot of stuff to write with and a lot of new books. But I think that some should go to war.

KIRK VOGLE. Hi, my name is Kirk Vogle and I am from Delaware.

About what Blaine said, to get back there, what he said about drug abuse. If they spend their money on drug abuse and beer, and liquor, stuff like that, then they don't deserve a second chance.

Well, how would you feel if you blew it by mistake? You would want a second chance. I think they should do it again. I mean, they would not blow it, they would probably learn how to do it right.

So, I feel that we should give them a second chance. At least give it another try. [Applause.]

Just like the old ball game, three strikes and you are out.

JOANNA GARCIA. My name is Joanna Garcia, I am from Texas.

I want to ask you all a question. Don't you think we have enough weapons, enough to fight Russia and anyone else in Texas?

So, if we do, then why do we have to spend more money on it? We can just spend our money on education and teach more people how to work with what we already have.

JACQUI MAKARAVITZ. My name is Jacqui Makaravitz. I am 11 years old, and I am from Pennsylvania.

If we spend all of our tax dollars on military sources and not on education for the children, then the military sources will really be down the drain along with education because you need education to fill those military sources.

If we keep spending all this money on military and nuclear war weapons and everything, then other countries are suffering along with us because we do not have the education to help them. And our children today are the teachers of tomorrow.

JAY RAINEY. My name is Jay Rainey and I am from Virginia.

I kind of wish this nuclear war stuff had never really been invented because it is causing so much holocaust. But if we do have the stuff and so does everybody else, then I think we should keep making it, but spend a little bit more on education because like some other people said, if you don't have the people who know how to work the stuff, then how are you going to even win a war with only machineguns and not big nuclear bombs?

Senator PRESSLER. Thank you.

VOICE. The children are not the ones that are starting these wars, and they need education. It is not their fault if a war comes. So, I think they should spend more money on education so the children do have a chance.

JENNIFER BARTON. My name is Jenny Barton and I represent New Hampshire. I am 11.

I would just like to say that if we keep spending all the money on military weapons and none on education, then when a war does come up we have all these guns and stuff but nobody knows how to use them.

So, I think we ought to divide it right up—maybe not down the middle, but you know, someplace along there so that we are prepared for a war and the children are getting enough education.

Representative MILLER. Do you think we might get into a war?

JENNIFER BARTON. I hope not. But we might as well be prepared.

Representative MILLER. Yes?

HEATHER MEISELMAN. I feel that we are spending too much money on the war because it has not come up. We should be prepared, but we are spending almost $1 million a minute. I feel that is too much. We should be spending more on education.

Just like one person said, we are the people of the future and we are the ones that are going to count right now because it is going to be us soon. If everybody keeps buying all this stuff for the war we are going to have no money left to do anything else.

So, I think we should stop buying so much for the war.

Senator MATHIAS. Yes, right here.

MIKE MOLANEY. I was in the world peace committee and our teacher told us that all the nuclear weapons that we have now, put together,

could kill the world 80 times over, the whole world, the whole Earth, everything.

What is the use in killing it 80 times over because once you kill it once, you are not going to be able to build it back up.

STORRIE MORRISON. Senator Pressler, I have a question for you. I know the United States has more bombs than Russia, but who has more megatons?

Senator PRESSLER. Who has more megatons? Well, I guess we have about an equal amount. We both probably have too much, maybe. But I am not sure of the exact megatons.

I am one of those who advocates that we enter into some kind of an agreement with the Soviets on the building of these various weapons.

STORRIE MORRISON. I think that if we have a war we should keep ourselves equal with Russia or any other country that is going to try to fight us. We should keep ourselves so that we do have enough. But we should keep ourselves at a higher education than they are. Support the education, but do still support war spending because if there is a war, either we are going to win it or we are going to lose it. If we lose it, we are gone.

Senator MATHIAS. Let me say, as we go through these different statements—there may be questions just like the one that was just asked—this is a little bit unusual. Normally this is something we do not let witnesses do. We say, "You are here to answer the questions." But today I think it might be important if you have questions that you ask them, while you make your statements.

ANDREA LEVINGER. I think that we should have education for all the people who are going to try to be in the Army, but we should also save a few bombs because if we don't, what if Russia does bomb us unexpectedly? What if we are not prepared and we all die? So, I think it pays to be prepared.

LIBBY LARD. Why don't we spend half and half because we need both? It seems like to me that they are all equal. You have to have intelligence to know how to shoot a gun, and you have to shoot a gun to win the war. So, you have to have both and you can't spend on one and not do the other.

Senator MATHIAS. So, you would put half in education and half in defense, right?

LIBBY LARD. Yes.

Senator MATHIAS. Let me shift back to this side, now.

SCOTT HELIG. My wish for the children of the world would be to stop the nuclear craziness in the world. [Applause.]

Because I believe some day the day might come when these weapons are put to use, and that would result in the destruction of all the people in the world, and never, ever would there be life again.

So, I would urge President Reagan and Mr. Brezhnev to stop the purchase of nuclear warfare. [Applause.]

Senator MATHIAS. Let's come back to this side.

MOLLI MORTON. I think if we could work with other nations on world peace and try to freeze the nuclear arms, then we could spend more money on education and we could have education in the world and stop spending the money on nuclear arms.

JILL PERRY. My name is Jill Perry and I represent West Virginia. I am 12 years old.

If we had to go to a war and we did not have the education, then who is going to fly these warplanes, who is going to shoot the missiles?

If we don't have education, we are not going to have time to teach young people today how to operate these machines to even have a chance against Russia in a nuclear war.

Senator MATHIAS. How about the panel, let me go to the table. We do not want to neglect the panel. Yes.

AMY GRAHAM. My name is Amy Graham and I am from the State of Illinois, and I am 13 years old.

If we do get bombed and we send ours over, who would want to live in the world after a nuclear bomb had already hit?

VOICE. If we made peace with the world we would not have to worry about a nuclear war, and we could spend more money on education.

Senator MATHIAS. All right. Yes?

SANDY CUNNINGHAM. If we, like he said, stopped the nuclear craziness because most countries now are greedy, they want more and more. If we put a freeze on ours then Russia more than likely would not stop theirs because they just want our nuclear missiles and things. They just want our intelligence to make their country better.

Representative MILLER. Mr. Chairman, I was just wondering, on the subcommittee on children's emotional needs there was, I thought, a rather interesting recommendation here that every school ought to have three checkups a year take place to see if there are signs of child abuse; and also the recommendation that there should be a shelter waiting for children in case they are abused.

What strikes me is that these children perceive their problem to be significant enough so that they think there ought to be checkups three times a year in their schools.

I just wondered if some of you would like to tell us what you know about this problem or how serious you think it is, of child abuse that would cause your subcommittee to decide that it is important enough for the child to be checked a couple of times a year.

Does anybody have a statement on that? Yes.

VOICE. Children write letters to tell these guys that children are being abused. Child abuse is one of the main child killers in the world today. Something should be done about it to stop that.

Representative MILLER. Yes?

LOGAN ERNSTTHAL. It is important enough to get all these things for abused children because 200,000 is the recent figure for kids. That is only the ones that are recorded and reported in to the police. There are probably twice as many which are not reported because the kids don't want to turn in their parents.

I think it is important enough to get the kids help and the parents, to get them help and try to get the family back together.

Representative MILLER. So, you think if something was done with the family that perhaps the family could stop the violence or stop the abuse, and the family could get back together.

VOICE. I agree with that because I went to a school once and they knew child abuse was going on there. There was this kid going to

that school and his parents beat him and everything, and he was killed.

Representative MILLER. Yes?

VOICE. I think there ought to be a tougher law because the children are afraid to turn against their parents in court. I think the parents should be in special programs and the kids should be in programs, too.

I think there should be posters put up in school and telephone numbers on TV so the children that are being abused could call and get help for their parents.

Senator MATHIAS. Now, in your resolution you also called for more day-care centers as a part of the program. Have any of you actually, when you were small, gone to day-care centers?

So, quite a few of you have had that experience. Did you feel that was a good experience?

VOICE. Yes.

Senator MATHIAS. You liked it, you felt it was a good experience?

VOICE. Yes.

Senator MATHIAS. Yes?

HEATHER MEISELMAN. I feel that once the parents and the children get to talk together in a certain shelter with help, with guidance or something, they will realize the problem because usually the parents do not realize it because they have been drinking and smoking very heavily. So, they do not realize it.

But once they realize it, then they can talk it over with their children and usually things will be straightened out.

Senator MATHIAS. Thank you. Yes?

VOICE. On the day-care centers, I think that we do not have enough of them. I think we should build about five more on the Governor's property because he has a whole lot of that and he is not doing anything with it.

[Laughter.]

Senator MATHIAS. Right here.

VOICE. My aunt used to work in a day-care center and they learned a lot of stuff there that helped kids through kindergarten and stuff like that. They are really helpful. Besides, they can help the kids who have been abused and that sort of stuff. They can help you through school.

Senator MATHIAS. But of course the question that always comes up—and I do not like to hark back to it too often—it costs money.

Now, that does not worry me as long as people are willing to contribute a little through their taxes or through other ways to support these centers.

Do you think that your family would agree to that?

VOICE. I can't really answer for my family because I am not the one who is paying the taxes, my parents are.

Senator MATHIAS. How would you feel when you are a wage earner and a taxpayer?

VOICE. If it was to help the kids, I would do it.

Senator MATHIAS. Good.

Now, you all have a very important job because you have to take all of these thousands of letters and pack them up, and get them ready to go down to the White House so that President Reagan and his staff will also know about them, as well as the Congress.

So, let's just take one more from each side. That will disappoint some of you but there just is not any way to do everything you have to do. You have such an important schedule today. So, let's start over here.

DAWN OSTROM. When we were talking about the nuclear war and education I think it should be spent for both of them because if we do not have education nobody is going to win a war.

Senator MATHIAS. I think that is a very good point. Someone has said, if you do not have education and you buy all of these complicated weapons, you may not have people educated enough to operate them.

TANYA OPAS. My name is Tanya Opas, I am 11 years old and I represent Connecticut.

I think that maybe 70 percent should be spent on education and 30 percent on military. Not only do we need the education to learn how to drive the planes and to shoot the bombs, but also, if we teach some people how to do some jobs they will get off welfare and we will have more money.

If we teach people medicine, we might be able to save some more people.

Senator MATHIAS. Now, I am very sorry to have to cut anybody off but I am going to call on Mrs. Benton to have the last word here.

Those of you who have been testifying in a very eloquent way about world peace and about the necessity for peace, may not know that she was one of the U.S. representatives at the Special United Nations Assembly on Disarmament.

So, she has been working in this field for a long time. Mrs. Benton, you have the last word.

Ms. BENTON. Thank you, Senator, what a privilege.

I would like to say to the kids who did not get a chance to ask their questions that one of the things you can do is go home and write your Senator and ask him your question, and tell him what is on your mind.

It is very important that you always be in contact with the people who represent you.

Of course, Senator, we are just terribly much in your debt for taking the time to come today and to listen to the children. Somebody once said, "Children are 40 percent of the population and 100 percent of the future." I know you all agree with that.

We thank you very, very much for listening to us today.

Senator MATHIAS. We want to thank everyone who is here. I know some of you are disappointed that you did not get a chance to testify personally. But if you will write to me or to your own Senator, then your views can be registered in that way. There are different means of communicating with the Congress.

So, keep it up, begin a life-time habit right now of writing to your Senators.

Ms. BENTON. Thank you very much.

Senator MATHIAS. The committee will stand adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 10:55 a.m., the subcommittee adjourned, subject to call of the Chair.]

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